

Tyndall's lectures on "Heat considered as a mode of motion" (First American Edition, p. 446, sqq.), such expressions as the following: "Every mechanical action on the earth's surface, every manifestation of power, organic and inorganic, vital and physical, is produced by the sun. . . . He blows the trumpet, he urges the projectile, he bursts the bomb. And remember, this is not poetry, but rigid mechanical truth. He rears, as I have said, the whole vegetable world, and through it the animal; the lilies of the field are his workmanship, the verdure of the meadows, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. He forms the muscle, he urges the blood, he builds the brain. His fleetness is in the lion's foot; he springs in the panther, he soars in the eagle, he slides in the snake. He builds the forest, and hews it down; the power which raised the tree and which wields the axe being one and the same. . . . The sun digs the ore from our mines, he rolls the iron, he rivets the plates, he boils the water, he draws the train. He not only grows the cotton, but he spins the fibre and weaves the web. There is not a hammer raised, a wheel turned, or a shuttle thrown, that is not raised, and turned, and thrown by the sun." No Chinese Bonze, no Hindoo Brahmin, no Persian Fire-worshipper, no Egyptian, Grecian, or Roman priest, no Indian medicine-man, could have discoursed in more eloquent language of the power of the "Mighty Ra" or "Yau," and none perhaps, with less danger of inculcating the belief, that the mere inert material nature can exert that all-controlling power which is essentially spiritual, and can spring only from a Supreme Intelligence.

Pending nominations Nos. 525, 526, 527, 528, were read.
And the Society was adjourned.

Stated Meeting, October 7, 1864.

Present, sixteen members.

Dr. WOOD, President, in the Chair.

A letter accepting membership was received from Mr. Joseph Harrison, dated Philadelphia, September 24th, 1864.

A letter acknowledging the receipt of publications was re-

ceived from the New York State Library at Albany, September 21st.

Donations for the Library were received from Professor Zantedeschi, of Padua; the London Meteorological, Geological, and Antiquarian Societies; the Essex Institute; the New York State Library; the Loyal Publishing Association; the Protestant Episcopal Convention of Pennsylvania; the Hon. William Duane and Reverdy Johnson; the Franklin Institute, and the College of Physicians of Philadelphia.

A donation for the Cabinet was received, through Mr. Chase, from Mr. W. K. Lanphear, of Cincinnati, consisting of 315 trade tokens.

The photograph of Professor J. C. Cresson was presented for the Album.

A communication offered for the Magellanic Premium, addressed to the President and signed “Torricelli,” was read by Secretary Dr. Le Conte, and referred, as the By-Laws direct, to the Board of Officers.

The communication announces “the discovery of certain new relations between the solar and lunar diurnal variations of magnetic force, and of barometric pressure.”

These relations may be expressed by the proportions:

$$B' : B'' :: \sqrt{A' M'} : \sqrt{A'' M''} \quad (1)$$

$$B' : M' :: A' : A'' \quad (2)$$

$$B'' : M'' :: B' : B'' \quad (3)$$

A' , A'' , representing the tidal force of the sun and moon, respectively.

B' , B'' the diurnal barometric variation.

M' , M'' , the diurnal magnetic variation.

Proportion (1) is readily deduced from (2) and (3).

Pending nominations Nos. 525, 526, 527, 528, were read.

The Committee upon the Purchase of a Site for the Hall, reported as follows:

“That they have received notice from Mr. Harrison that he has another applicant for the lot, and that he is now willing to sell. His price is \$16,000, which may be in a reserved ground rent, re-

deemable after a few years, if the Society shall prefer, but he would prefer a few thousand dollars to be paid on account. We propose to offer \$15,000; but consider that the Society should not miss the lot if satisfied with the location.

“The lot is the most central of any we know of, having the dimensions we require, with a front towards the southwest corner of Penn Square; and if this opportunity be lost, it is believed no vacant lot so suitable for our purpose can be had.

“The dimensions of the lot are 74 feet front, by 92 feet in depth, to a small street.

“We recommend that the Society make the purchase.”

(Signed)

ELI K. PRICE,
STEPHEN COLWELL,
F. FRALEY.

Dated October 3d, 1864.

To bring the matter before the meeting, Mr. Fraley moved that the Committee be authorized, at their discretion, to purchase the lot of Mr. Harrison, for a sum not greater than \$16,000, and to make immediate payment of a portion, not exceeding \$5,000.

After some discussion, on motion of Judge Sharswood, the consideration of the subject was postponed until the first stated meeting in November next.

And the Society was adjourned.

Stated Meeting, October 21, 1864.

Present, eight members.

Dr. BELL in the Chair.

A letter accepting membership was received from Dr. A. Tholuck, dated Halle, October 4th, 1864.